



MADAGASCAR

2024 IFRC Network Mid-Year Report, January – June

16 April 2025

IN SUPPORT OF THE MALAGASY RED CROSS SOCIETY



23

National Society
branches



141

National Society
local units



10,000

National Society
volunteers



150

National Society
staff

PEOPLE TO BE REACHED

Emergency
Operations



225,000

Climate and
environment



30,000

Disasters
and crises



70,000

Health and
wellbeing



700,000

Values, power
and inclusion



300

Data not available at time of publication

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

in Swiss francs (CHF)

Country	Funding Requirement	16.4M
IFRC Secretariat	Longer-term Funding Requirement	1.1M
	Funding	Not reported
	Expenditure	Not reported
	Emergency Operations Funding Requirement	2.5M
	Funding	Not reported
	Expenditure	Not reported
Participating National Societies	Funding Requirement	7.5M
HNS other funding sources	Funding Requirement	5.3M
	Funding	Not reported

Malagasy Red Cross Society

Overview

Funding	2.2M
Expenditure	1.8M

Funding Sources

IFRC Secretariat	11,000
Participating National Societies	2.2M
HNS other funding sources	Not reported

Appeal number **MAAMG002**

*Information on data scope and limitations is available on the back page

ONGOING EMERGENCY INDICATORS

PMG043 / *Hunger Crisis*

Number of people reached with disaster risk reduction.	193
Number of people reached per year with support services, in-kind, cash and voucher assistance for emergency response and recovery.	27
Number of people reached by National Societies with contextually appropriate water, sanitation and hygiene services.	27
National Society is participating in IFRC-led campaigns.	Yes
National Society has strengthened their integrity risk mechanisms.	Yes
National Society has One National Society Development country plan created.	Yes
National Society has implemented a digital transformation roadmap in line with the IFRC strategy.	Yes
National Society has domestic advocacy strategies developed aligning, at least in part, with global IFRC advocacy strategies	Yes
National Society has created and implemented youth engagement strategies.	Yes
National Society has a functioning data management systems that inform decision making and support monitoring and reporting on the impact and evidence of the IFRC network's contributions.	Yes
National Society develops and/or implements a strategy for strengthening their auxiliary role	Yes

Number of people reached per year with support services, in-kind, cash and voucher assistance for emergency response and recovery.	27,000
Number of people reached by National Societies with contextually appropriate health services.	3,000
Number of people reached with disaster risk reduction.	2,000
Number of people reached by National Societies with contextually appropriate water, sanitation and hygiene services.	294
Number of people reached with livelihoods support	43
Number of people reached by protection, gender and inclusion programming.	27
Number of people reached with shelter support.	24
Number of people trained by National Societies in first aid.	312
National Society reports that they have integrated and institutionalised Community Engagement and Accountability in their policies, operations, and procedures (with clear benchmarks).	Yes
National Society is participating in IFRC-led campaigns.	Yes
National Society has strengthened their integrity risk mechanisms.	Yes
National Society has One National Society Development country plan created.	Yes
National Society has implemented a digital transformation roadmap in line with the IFRC strategy.	Yes
National Society has domestic advocacy strategies developed aligning, at least in part, with global IFRC advocacy strategies	Yes
National Society has created and implemented youth engagement strategies.	Yes
National Society has a functioning data management systems that inform decision making and support monitoring and reporting on the impact and evidence of the IFRC network's contributions.	Yes
National Society develops and/or implements a strategy for strengthening their auxiliary role	Yes

OVERALL PROGRESS

Context

Madagascar, the largest island in the Indian Ocean, has a land area of 592,000 km² and a population of approximately 29.6 million people, growing at an annual rate of three per cent. Despite its rich natural resources, Madagascar remains one of the poorest countries in the world due to political instability, weak institutions and poor governance. The informal sector dominates employment, accounting for 95 per cent of jobs, with women making up 97 per cent of informal production units. The economy heavily relies on agriculture, employing 77.9 per cent of households, yet recurrent droughts, cyclones and environmental degradation significantly affect agricultural output and livelihoods.

Poverty and food insecurity are critical challenges, with 80 per cent of the population living in poverty and food prices rising due to inflation and high transport costs. Food insecurity is particularly severe in southern Madagascar, where consecutive droughts have reduced crop yields, leaving thousands vulnerable. Malnutrition remains a major issue, with 49 per cent of the population affected, and stunting among children under five among the highest in the world at 39.8 per cent. Health system improvements have led to increased life expectancy (67 years) and reductions in maternal and infant mortality, but access to clean water, immunization coverage and sanitation services remain inadequate, increasing the risk of infectious disease outbreaks.

Madagascar is highly prone to natural disasters, including cyclones, floods, droughts and locust infestations. In 2024, Cyclones Alvaro and Gamane caused widespread devastation, displacing 28,692 people and affecting nearly 63,000 individuals. Alvaro's impact was particularly severe in southern-central regions, destroying 241 settlements, damaging 426 houses and 15 schools and displacing 9,500 people. Gamane led to severe flooding in Sava, Diana and Analanjirofo, leaving 36,934 people affected and 19,192 displaced.

Key achievements

Climate and environment

By mid-2024, the Malagasy Red Cross advanced its climate resilience and environmental sustainability efforts through targeted training, community initiatives and policy engagement. The National Society trained volunteers and community members in climate change adaptation and [early warning systems](#) while supporting farmer groups with climate-smart agricultural inputs, equipment and training. A carbon footprint analysis was completed to reduce emissions from humanitarian activities. As a focal point for the Early Warning for All ([EW4All](#)) initiative, the Malagasy Red Cross refined its preparedness strategies, participated in a global communication campaign and developed the country's first Early Action Protocol ([EAP](#)) for floods. Additionally, collaboration with the Ministry of Public Health led to the development of a roadmap for integrating disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation into malaria prevention efforts.

Disasters and crises

During the 2023-2024 cyclone season, Madagascar experienced two major cyclones—Alvaro and Gamane—causing widespread damage and displacement. In response, the Malagasy Red Cross provided [cash assistance](#) to affected households and led water, sanitation and hygiene ([WASH](#)) interventions. For Cyclone Gamane, the Malagasy Red Cross reached households with cash assistance and supported people through water point disinfection and WASH awareness campaigns. Additionally, the National Society distributed cash for livelihoods (Cash+) in drought-affected regions to help restore household resilience.

Health and wellbeing

The Malagasy Red Cross aligned its health initiatives with national priorities, focusing on epidemic prevention, community awareness and access to safe water. In response to a conjunctivitis outbreak, the National Society conducted awareness campaigns, while mass media campaigns educated individuals on waterborne disease prevention. Following Cyclone Gamane, the National Society mobilized volunteers to improve access to safe drinking water in affected areas, while disinfecting water points. These efforts significantly reduced the risk of disease outbreaks in vulnerable communities.

Values, power and inclusion

To promote inclusive and community-driven responses, the Malagasy Red Cross integrated community engagement and accountability (CEA) and protection, gender and inclusion (PGI) into its operations. Volunteers and staff in high-risk areas received refresher training in CEA and PGI. The Malagasy Red Cross also established community committees to coordinate humanitarian response efforts and processed feedback from committee members, ensuring transparent and inclusive decision-making.

Enabling local actors

By mid-2024, the Malagasy Red Cross strengthened its governance, financial sustainability and emergency response capacity. The National Society improved its internal policies and revitalized its youth network to promote a culture of peace and non-violence. A Preparedness for Effective Response (PER) self-assessment was completed, leading to a one-year action plan prioritizing emergency response expertise and resource mobilization. The Malagasy Red Cross integrated monitoring and evaluation across all operations to enhance transparency and effectiveness. The National Society strengthened internal processes, adopted digital tools for data collection, and conducted post-distribution monitoring surveys to assess impact. The use of KoBo Collect and a Microsoft Excel Workplan tracker further improved performance monitoring and reporting, reinforcing donor trust and funding opportunities.



Volunteers undertaking anticipatory actions in Sambava district of the SAVA region to mitigate the flood risk in 2024. (Photo: Malagasy Red Cross)

IFRC NETWORK ACTION

ONGOING EMERGENCY RESPONSE

For real-time information on emergencies, see [IFRC GO page Madagascar](#).

Emergency Appeal name	Revised Africa Hunger Crisis Emergency Appeal 2023-2024
IFRC Emergency Appeal code	MGR60001
People affected	157 million people across sub-Saharan Africa 225,000 people in Madagascar
Duration	Operation start date for Madagascar - 6 October 2022, extended operation to 31 December 2024
Funding requirements	8IFRC Secretariat Funding requirements: CHF 232.5 M Federation-wide Funding requirements: CHF 318 M Funding requirement for Madagascar for 2024: CHF 5.5 M
Link to Emergency Appeal	Revised Africa Hunger Crisis Emergency Appeal
Link to Operational Strategy	Country Plan of Action- Madagascar

Madagascar is among the priority countries supported by the IFRC's Africa Hunger Crisis Emergency Appeal, launched in October 2022 to address the worsening food insecurity crisis in sub-Saharan Africa. The appeal focuses on communities experiencing acute food insecurity (IPC phase 3+), with Madagascar's Great South and Great Southeast regions identified as high-risk areas. As of May 2022, around 1.7 million people in these regions faced severe food insecurity out of 5.3 million analyzed. The crisis in Africa is driven by conflict, climate variability, extreme weather events, and economic instability, requiring urgent humanitarian action. Across the continent, 146 million people need immediate food assistance, with regions like the Horn of Africa, Sahel and Southern Africa facing particularly severe challenges due to failed rains, flooding, insecurity and inflation.

Madagascar's food insecurity crisis is worsened by recurrent droughts in the south, widespread poverty, the economic impact of COVID-19, cyclones and the global consequences of the war in Ukraine. While Ambovombe-Androy remains the hardest-hit region, classified as IPC Phase 3, other areas are also increasingly at risk.

From January to April 2025, food insecurity is expected to worsen in the Diana and Sava regions, particularly in the Vohemar and Sambava districts. In response, the Malagasy Red Cross is implementing its Hunger Crisis Appeal, providing essential support to affected populations in Elonty.

Short description of the emergency operational strategy

As the crisis unfolds, the Malagasy Red Cross remains proactive, continuously monitoring the situation and adapting its response to meet the evolving needs of vulnerable communities. Through immediate relief efforts and long-term resilience-building, the Malagasy Red Cross is playing a crucial role in mitigating the lasting effects of food insecurity in Madagascar.

The planned operations are aligned with the Regional Operation Strategy's three response pillars and enabling actions. All activities are aligned with the Zero Hunger Initiative and the IFRC Unified Planning process. The key interventions include:

Shelter, housing and settlements

Madagascar's east and southeast coastal communities are highly vulnerable to cyclones, which cause significant damage to homes, making rebuilding challenging for already impoverished communities. The Malagasy Red Cross has implemented initiatives to improve cyclone preparedness and recovery.

In collaboration with the Universities of Antananarivo and Edinburgh and with technical support from the IFRC, the Malagasy Red Cross conducted research on alternative local materials for cyclone-resistant shelter construction. Surveys identified key factors influencing the adoption of recommended building guidelines. Awareness campaigns were conducted in Vatovavy's Mananjary district, reaching 132 people and 25 volunteers were trained on data collection and awareness activities.

The Malagasy Red Cross is implementing shelter-related activities in 11 fokontany in the Vatovavy region under the global [Pilot Programmatic Partnership](#) between the IFRC and the Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO), and with implementing support from EU National Societies. The National Society undertook beneficiary identification, carpenter training, and awareness on early warning systems. So far, six male and two female carpenters have been trained, and 27 cyclone-resistant model homes have been built, benefiting 27 households. Additionally, early warning systems home visits reached 397 individuals to improve shock preparedness.

The "Tanana Matomboka" ("Strong Village") initiative, launched in February 2024 in Maroantsetra district (Analanjirifo region), strengthens community knowledge of disaster risks and response structures. 35 volunteers were trained in Participatory Approach for Shelter and Settlements Awareness (PASSA), focusing on community mobilization, shelter-related techniques and cyclone-resistant construction.

Under the "TSARAHONENANA" ("Better Living") project, a participatory workshop in Antalaha gathered the Malagasy Red Cross staff, community members and local entrepreneurs to validate a bamboo-based prototype as an alternative to timber for shelters.

Livelihoods

The Malagasy Red Cross is supporting communities affected by droughts in the South and Southeast regions. In Tsivory commune (Anosy region), under the Hunger Crisis Appeal, a field visit identified livelihood support and water point rehabilitation as key priorities. A 20-member monitoring team was deployed for assessment.

With **German Red Cross** leadership and the IFRC support, 20 staff from the Anosy branch were trained in livelihoods and Cash Plus (CASH+), while eight headquarters staff received training in livelihood concepts. A field visit involving 40 stakeholders, including local authorities, led to beneficiary validation in 32 fokontany. Through CASH+, 2,040 individuals benefited from the first distribution, while 13,159 people (6,491 males, 6,668 females) received the second round.

In Tolagnaro district (Ambatoabo and Ankilivalo communes), the [DG ECHO-IFRC Pilot Programmatic Partnership](#) funding enabled CASH+ distribution to 8,545 individuals in Ambatoabo and 2,752 in Ankilivalo, supporting drought-affected livelihoods. Additionally, 23 volunteers were trained in livelihood awareness packages.

Multi-purpose cash

To ensure assistance meets community needs, the Malagasy Red Cross has adopted a multi-purpose cash strategy. A refresher training in Analamanga was provided to 23 staff and volunteers on cash program principles.

In Betroka district (Anosy region), three rounds of cash distribution were conducted:

- First round: Needs assessments by 39 volunteers and 51 community committees led to 12,131 new beneficiaries (5,904 males, 6,227 females).
- Second round: 3,930 past beneficiaries received cash support (1,935 males, 1,995 females).
- Third round: 1,056 individuals benefited (470 males, 586 females).

Health and care

The Malagasy Red Cross is actively supporting the Ministry of Health by establishing community health committees in Mananjary, Ankilivalo and Ambatoabo to raise awareness on disease prevention.

Following the conjunctivitis outbreak and the potential cholera risk from Comoros, awareness campaigns under the [DG ECHO-IFRC Pilot Programmatic Partnership](#) activities reached 3,281 individuals. Additionally, 38 volunteers (4 males, 34 females) received refresher training in epidemic control in Vatovavy.

A workshop in Taolagnaro (Anosy region) gathered 68 stakeholders to assess epidemic response capacities. Community health committees were formed in 11 fokontany, training 106 members in first aid, with 22 first aid kits and 11 stretchers distributed.

Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)

Through [DG ECHO-IFRC Pilot Programmatic Partnership](#) funding, the Malagasy Red Cross supports drought-affected communities in Grand Sud, ensuring access to safe drinking water and sanitation services.

In Taolagnaro (Anosy region), key WASH activities included WASH coordination meetings with stakeholders, NGO mapping for WASH interventions and sanitation awareness campaigns in Ankilivalo 1 and Fenoatsimo fokontany, reaching 269 people (120 males, 149 females).

Community engagement and accountability (CEA)

Community involvement is central to Malagasy Red Cross' humanitarian response. The Malagasy Red Cross established community committees, engaged them in beneficiary selection and set up feedback mechanisms. A refresher training for 120 volunteers covered CEA, protection, gender and inclusion ([PGI](#)) and People at Risk of Violence and Harm (PPVH).

With technical support from the IFRC, the Malagasy Red Cross revised its CEA policy to integrate CEA into all operations. The updated policy defines key procedures, frameworks and strategies for programme teams, ensuring a standardized approach across all humanitarian projects.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Progress by the National Society against objectives

During the reporting period, the Malagasy Red Cross implemented several key activities to enhance climate resilience and environmental sustainability. Efforts focused on climate change adaptation, biodiversity preservation, [early warning systems](#) and disaster preparedness.

The Malagasy Red Cross trained 31 volunteers and community members in climate adaptation and early warning systems. Under the IKI-funded project, six farmer groups in Mahela (Antanambao-Manampotsy District) received agro-ecological inputs, equipment and training on climate-adapted farming techniques, post-harvest management and improved storage. Additionally, three farmer field schools were established, and a study was launched to assess deforestation causes and mitigation measures.

The National Society completed a [carbon footprint](#) analysis of its humanitarian activities, following the "Greening the Red" approach, providing recommendations to minimize carbon emissions.

As a priority country for the Early Warning for All ([EW4All](#)) initiative, the Malagasy Red Cross serves as the national focal point for Pillar 4, focusing on community preparedness and response to hydro-meteorological warnings. A Pillar 4 Planning Workshop was held in March 2024 to refine the gap analysis and develop an annual action plan. The Malagasy Red Cross also participated in an EW4All global communication campaign, sharing experiences from the Cyclone Batsirai response.

Regarding [anticipatory action](#), the Malagasy Red Cross developed a full Early Action Protocol ([EAP](#)) for cyclones, which was tested in a simulation exercise (SIMEX). Additionally, the first EAP for seasonal floods is under development.

Given the strong connection between climate change, health risks and epidemics, the Malagasy Red Cross collaborated with the Ministry of Public Health and the National Malaria Control Programme (PNLP) to organize a two-day workshop on malaria, climate change and disaster management. The event set the foundation for a 2024-2027 roadmap on disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation in malaria control.

The National Society is also piloting the IOI Pathway to Climate Championship. Future initiatives under discussion include the formation of a climate action working group and a climate risk assessment.

Following the visit of the IFRC Secretary General, the Malagasy Red Cross initiated discussions with the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MEDD) to explore how the National Society can support the National Adaptation Plan through a tripartite agreement between the MEDD, the Malagasy Red Cross and the IFRC.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC and participating National Societies provided technical and financial support for climate and environment-related activities. The IFRC supported in proposal development and partnerships, particularly in engaging with the Ministry of Environment. A policy landscaping and baseline study were conducted to align the Malagasy Red Cross strategies with the IFRC’s [Global Climate Resilience Programme](#).

The IFRC also actively supported the Malagasy Red Cross in piloting the IOI Pathway to Climate Championship and responding to food security challenges in southern Madagascar. As the global lead for EW4All’s Pillar 4, the IFRC has been instrumental in partner coordination and technical guidance.

Under the [DG ECHO-IFRC Pilot Programmatic Partnership](#), and with implementation support from the **German Red Cross** and the **Luxembourg Red Cross**, the Malagasy Red Cross worked on EAPs through [forecast-based financing](#) studies and climate-smart livelihood programmes, such as training carpenters in resilient construction techniques.

The **French Red Cross** ([PIROI](#)) supported carbon footprint analysis and community perception studies, while also collaborating with the Malagasy Red Cross under the UNDRR resilience-building programme in the Indian Ocean, co-funded by the EU and the Indian Ocean Commission.

The **German Red Cross** played a key role in developing early warning triggers for droughts and cyclones, assessing climate-smart livelihoods, training farmer groups, establishing farmer field schools and organizing afforestation/ reforestation campaigns. Capacity-building initiatives were also conducted at national, regional and district levels to strengthen the Malagasy Red Cross capabilities in climate adaptation, biodiversity preservation and livelihoods resilience.



Disasters and crises

For real-time information on emergencies, see [IFRC GO page Madagascar](#)

By mid-2024, the IFRC Disaster Response Emergency Fund ([IFRC-DREF](#)) was approved for one emergencies comprising the Madagascar cyclone:

NAME OF OPERATION	Madagascar – Tropical Cyclone Gamane 2024
MDR-CODE	MDRMG022
DURATION	3 months (May 2024 to August 2024)
FUNDING ALLOCATION	CHF 148,708
PEOPLE TARGETED	10,000

The IFRC DREF allocated CHF 148,708 to support the Malagasy Red Cross to assist 10,000 vulnerable people affected by the tropical cyclone. On 27 March 2024, Tropical Cyclone Gamane made landfall in Madagascar, striking Ampisikinana in the Vohémar district of the Sava Region with wind speeds reaching 150 km/h and gusts up to 210 km/h. The cyclone brought severe weather conditions to three northern regions—Sava, Diana, and Analanjirofo—causing widespread heavy rainfall and flooding. Towns and villages in Sava, Analanjirofo and parts of Diana were particularly affected, with major flooding reported in Antalaha, Sambava, and Vohemar. In Analanjirofo, all fokontany in Sambava and the rural communes of Ambinanitelo and Andranofotsy in Maroantsetra district were inundated.

A provisional assessment by the National Disaster Risk Management Office on 28 March reported three missing persons, 36,934 affected individuals and 19,192 displaced people. Authorities issued red heavy rainfall warnings for Diana, Sava, Ambatosoa and Analanjirofo, along with Toamasina and Vohibinany in the Atsinanana region. Additionally, green rainfall warnings were declared for several districts in Alaotra-Mangoro, while strong wind and heavy swell warnings were in effect along eastern, northeastern and southern coastlines of Madagascar.

The Malagasy Red Cross reached 950 households with cash assistance and benefited 34,105 people through water point disinfection and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) awareness campaigns.

Progress by the National Society against objectives

During the 2023-2024 cyclone season, Madagascar was struck by two major cyclones: Cyclone Alvaro in December 2023 and Cyclone Gamane in March 2024. Cyclone Alvaro, which formed in the Mozambique Channel, caused 10 fatalities, displaced 9,500 people to 36 evacuation centres, and affected 26,000 people, with 241 settlements destroyed, 426 houses damaged, and 15 schools impacted, according to the National Bureau of Risk and Disaster Management (BNGRC). In response, the Malagasy Red Cross provided cash and voucher assistance (CVA) in Vohipeno district, Fitovavy region, supporting affected households with two rounds of cash distribution, reaching 566 and 564 households, respectively.

Cyclone Gamane, which made landfall on March 27, 2024, severely impacted northern and northeastern Madagascar, causing flooding and loss of life. Following a national emergency declaration on April 3, the Malagasy Red Cross responded to the government's appeal for humanitarian support. During coordination meetings led by BNGRC, the Malagasy Red Cross was assigned WASH interventions in Vohemar and Sambava districts, including disinfection of water points, WASH kit distribution and CVA. Using the DREF funding, the Malagasy Red Cross trained 25 volunteers in Vohemar and 29 in Sambava to support cash distribution and awareness campaigns. The first round of cash distribution reached 950 households, and volunteers conducted WASH awareness sessions benefiting 34,105 people to prevent waterborne diseases.

To support drought-affected communities in safeguarding their livelihoods, under the Partnership Programme, the Malagasy Red Cross provided cash for livelihoods (Cash+) through its branches in Anosy and Vatovavy. Each validated beneficiary received CHF 23.19, with two rounds of cash distributions reaching 16,835 individuals (7,297 males and 9,538 females).

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC will provide technical guidance to the Malagasy Red Cross in implementing its disaster preparedness and response activities. IFRC mechanisms such as the Disaster Response Emergency Fund (IFRC-DREF) and Emergency Appeals will be drawn on as needed for the National Society to respond to the adverse effects of climate change. In line with this, in April 2024, the IFRC approved a [DREF for the tropical cyclone](#).



Health and wellbeing

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Malagasy Red Cross aligns its health-related activities with the Ministry of Health's priorities, contributing to the country's capacity to effectively manage epidemic outbreaks while ensuring health services remain accessible to all. Key activities include awareness campaigns aimed at strengthening community engagement in disease prevention, promoting vaccination and encouraging the adoption of healthy behaviours and practices.

Following the detection of a conjunctivitis outbreak, the Ministry of Health mobilized partners to raise awareness and equip communities with preventive measures to limit the spread of the disease. Under the [DG ECHO-IFRC Pilot Programmatic Partnership](#), the Malagasy Red Cross launched a community engagement campaign in the Vatovavy region, using face-to-face sessions and community dialogues to reach 3,124 people (1,252 men and 1,872 women). Additionally, mass media campaigns were conducted as part of the hunger crisis appeal in Elonty, reaching 193 individuals (100 males and 93 females) with information on waterborne disease prevention.

In response to Tropical Cyclone Gamane, residents of Vohemar and Sambava in the SAVA region faced limited access to safe drinking water due to contaminated and flooded water sources. To prevent waterborne diseases, trained

Malagasy Red Cross volunteers carried out health awareness campaigns, educating 31,825 people on safe water consumption, water treatment and proper handwashing practices. Additionally, water points in 263 fokontany were disinfected, restoring access to clean and safe water for communities in Sambava, Vohemar and Andapa.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the National Society through the emergency appeal against the hunger crisis in Africa. Madagascar was one of the priority countries supported and will continue to be part of the [Revised Africa Hunger Crisis Emergency Appeal](#) until December 2024. Under the [DG ECHO-IFRC Pilot Programmatic Partnership](#), the Malagasy Red Cross continued to carry out awareness raising activities on health and WASH based on findings from the knowledge, attitude and practice (KAP) survey. Water infrastructure construction, maintenance and management will be improved in target communes and temporary evacuation sites. The IFRC will support the National Society to increase its capacity in epidemic control and WASH by training National Disaster Response Teams and reconditioning available WASH equipment.



Values, power and inclusion

Progress by the National Society against objectives

Empowering community-led responses to recurrent and potential disasters requires a comprehensive approach that integrates preparedness measures, anticipatory actions, and active community participation in decision-making. This process also ensures gender equality and inclusion at all levels. Training volunteers in the Principles of Humanitarian Actions is essential to ensure they are well-equipped to respond effectively to disasters and participate in Red Ready initiatives. Additionally, establishing community committees and feedback mechanisms strengthens community engagement and enhances decision-making processes. Community engagement and accountability (CEA) and protection, gender and inclusion (PGI) remain key components of all Malagasy Red Cross interventions.

A crucial factor in increasing community engagement is ensuring that communities fully understand the National Society's role, allowing them to actively participate in programme implementation. This approach strengthens both the safety of volunteers and staff in the field and community capacity-building efforts. During the [DREF election preparedness response](#) in October 2023, the Malagasy Red Cross communication team and PGI focal points briefed journalists on the National Society's mandate during crisis situations, helping to improve public awareness. The workshop brought together 27 journalists from national and regional media outlets, who subsequently aired weekly radio spots that reached approximately 5,275 individuals. Additionally, 200 volunteers and staff from the Analamanga, Diana and Antsohihy branches, where civil unrest was anticipated, received refresher training on PGI and CEA to ensure they were prepared to handle potential risks.

Furthermore, the Malagasy Red Cross organized a workshop in Diego-Suarez, bringing together government representatives, civil society organizations and other key stakeholders to establish community committees for the election period. These committees were responsible for collecting, analyzing and sharing verified information among stakeholders, facilitating better coordination and effective delivery of humanitarian assistance to affected populations. Additionally, as part of the [DG ECHO-IFRC Pilot Programmatic Partnership](#) in the Vatovavy region, 153 community committee members participated in feedback processing, reinforcing transparent and community-driven decision-making in humanitarian interventions.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the National Society in progressive institutionalization of CEA through integration in programmes and projects as a cross-cutting thematic area.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS



Strategic and operational coordination

IFRC membership coordination

IFRC membership coordination involves working with National Societies to assess the humanitarian context, agree on common priorities and jointly develop common strategies. This includes addressing issues such as obtaining greater humanitarian acceptance and access, mobilizing funding and other resources, clarifying consistent public messaging, and monitoring progress. It also entails ensuring that strategies and programmes in support of people in need incorporate clarity of humanitarian action while linking with development assistance and contribute to reinforcing National Societies in their respective countries, including through their auxiliary role.

The IFRC is the co-lead with the government of the Shelter cluster and supports the stakeholders in a coordination meeting every week. In addition, IFRC supports the participation of the National Society in other Clusters such as the Food Security Cluster, Nutrition Cluster and Protection Cluster. The IFRC supports the regular dialogue of the National Society at the level of the actors and the government as an auxiliary of the state. The local presence of National Societies makes it possible to respond quickly and effectively to disasters and crises and to address vulnerabilities.

The IFRC provides critical support to domestic and international disaster response efforts. Funding is mobilized through internal National Society capacities, participating National Society contributions and international advocacy efforts, particularly through DREF (Disaster Response Emergency Fund) and emergency appeals. In 2024, two DREF allocations were activated for post-election/civil unrest response and Cyclone Gamane, while a CRISMO (Crisis Modifier) was utilized to support Cyclone Alvaro response operations. Additionally, CHF 500,000 was secured for the Hunger Crisis response, addressing food insecurity caused by prolonged drought since 2020.

As part of ongoing operations, the Malagasy Red Cross continues to prioritize the Hunger Crisis response, with WASH interventions focusing on rehabilitating six water wells in the Commune of Elonty (Amboasary Sud District). Until December 2024, livelihoods and nutrition activities will include seed and agricultural equipment distribution across 93 villages in Elonty, helping communities rebuild their food security.

The Malagasy Red Cross is part of the global Pilot Programmatic Partnership between the DG ECHO and IFRC, and as such, is receiving the implementation support of the **German Red Cross** as the lead, the **French Red Cross** and the **Luxembourg Red Cross**, as well as the coordination support of the IFRC.

This partnership meets the realities of extended crises with longer-term predictable funding, facilitating actions and processes with the potential for greater, longer-term impact. It leverages the IFRC's global network and unique access to people and communities, and it helps to fulfil the ambitions of the European Union as the world's biggest international donor for humanitarian assistance. The partnership is scheduled to end in mid-2025.

Since 2000, the **French Red Cross** and the Malagasy Red Cross have been working together through PIROI. Based in La Réunion, [PIROI](#) is part of the French Red Cross and implements a regional programme on disaster risk management in the southwest Indian Ocean, which includes Madagascar. The French Red Cross had a permanent presence in Madagascar between 2006 and 2012, funded by the EU and the French Government. As well as these bilateral projects in Madagascar, the French Red Cross and PIROI support the Malagasy Red Cross Society in several ways, notably in disaster risk management, health, and emergency operations.

The **German Red Cross** and the Malagasy Red Cross have worked together since 2012, jointly implementing projects with funds from the German Federal Foreign Office, the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development, and the European Commission's DG ECHO. The German Red Cross has a permanent office in Antananarivo and a temporary office in Fort Dauphin in the south of the country, and it plans to open an office in the east in 2022. The German Red Cross has primarily supported projects in the southern part of the country and in Antananarivo, mainly around disaster risk management, cash and voucher-based assistance, readiness and preparedness, food security and livelihoods, health, water, sanitation, and hygiene services.

The **Luxembourg Red Cross** has been working with the Malagasy Red Cross since 2017 with funding from the Luxembourg Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the European Commission's DG ECHO. The Luxembourg Red Cross has had a permanent presence in Antananarivo since 2019 and has primarily supported projects in the north of the country (Diana, Sava, Analanjirofo and Boeny regions), mainly around disaster risk management and health.

Movement coordination

The IFRC ensures Movement coordination in the Indian Ocean islands, liaising with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and National Societies. The ICRC does not have a permanent presence in Madagascar, but it has a regional base in Nairobi. As part of the response to the Africa Hunger Crisis, the IFRC and the ICRC coordinate action and support to National Societies. This is carried out in line with the Strengthening Movement Coordination and Cooperation (SMCC) principles, and the newly adopted [Seville Agreement 2.0](#).

External coordination

The Malagasy Red Cross actively engages in national and local disaster response coordination mechanisms to strengthen its role in risk reduction and humanitarian response. At the national level, the Malagasy Red Cross is an ex-officio member of the Comité de Réflexion des Intervenants en cas de Catastrophes (CRIC), which coordinates disaster response efforts. The National Society also participates in regional and local disaster management committees, including the Comité Régional de Gestion de Risque et Catastrophes, Comité District de Gestion de Risque et Catastrophes, Comité Communal de Gestion de Risque et Catastrophes, and Equipe Locale de Gestion de Risque et Catastrophes. As an [auxiliary](#) to public authorities, the Malagasy Red Cross mobilizes volunteers to conduct rapid assessments before, during and after disasters, providing critical data to inform CRIC meetings and guide disaster response strategies. In remote areas, the Malagasy Red Cross branches play a crucial role in ensuring the effectiveness of disaster responses and complementing the efforts of government and humanitarian actors.

Beyond national coordination, the Malagasy Red Cross is an active member of the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), which brings together UN agencies, NGOs, the IFRC, National Societies and participating National Societies to share information, assess risks and coordinate responses to crises such as civil unrest, cyclones, floods and epidemics. Within the Red Cross/Red Crescent membership coordination framework, the IFRC leads regular coordination meetings, especially during crises, ensuring effective information-sharing, decision-making and alignment of efforts between the Malagasy Red Cross, participating National Societies and the IFRC.

In addition to humanitarian coordination, the Malagasy Red Cross collaborates with academic institutions, including the University of Edinburgh, the University of Liverpool and the University of Antananarivo, on research to improve the resilience of traditional coastal houses against cyclones. This partnership has contributed to enhancing community preparedness, strengthening shelter capacities of the Malagasy Red Cross volunteers and developing resilient housing models. The collaboration has also extended to Medair Madagascar, exploring the potential replication of shelter projects in South Sudan, and has influenced global discussions on shelter and housing, where the Malagasy Red Cross and the IFRC serve as co-leads.

To ensure an effective response to Madagascar's food insecurity and drought challenges, the Malagasy Red Cross participates in periodic coordination meetings with Red Cross/Red Crescent membership coordination groups, CRIC, the Cash Working Group (CWG) and the National Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster. These forums utilize IPC (Integrated Food Security Phase Classification) reports and national drought strategies to steer ongoing interventions and enhance operational effectiveness.



National Society development

Progress by the National Society against objectives

By mid-2024, the Malagasy Red Cross focused on strengthening its institutional capacity, governance and operational efficiency as part of its National Society development efforts. The Malagasy Red Cross worked on improving key policies and procedures, particularly in the areas of human resources, finance and asset management. These efforts aim to enhance institutional integrity and establish more transparent and effective internal systems.

To improve financial sustainability and strengthen governance, the Malagasy Red Cross successfully secured support from the Capacity Building Fund (CBF). The revitalization of the youth network remains a priority, positioning young people as agents of behavioral change (YABC) to promote a culture of non-violence and peace within communities.

The Preparedness for Effective Response (PER) self-assessment was completed, leading to the development of a one-year PER action plan. This action plan outlines two strategic priorities:

- Strengthening the Malagasy Red Cross' expertise in emergency response, including defining its mandate, developing technical manuals, refining operational procedures in emergencies and drafting regional emergency and contingency plans with clear budgets
- Equipping the National Society with the necessary resources to enhance its ability to respond effectively to emergencies

Furthermore, the Indian Ocean Islands Leadership Meeting, which gathered Presidents and Secretary Generals from Seychelles, Mauritius, Comoros and Madagascar, identified resource mobilization and financial sustainability as key focus areas. These priorities, will be further strengthened in 2025, ensuring a long-term strategy for sustainable growth and impact.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided technical and financial support to the Malagasy Red Cross through the IFRC-CBF.

The **Japanese Red Cross** supported the Malagasy Red Cross on improving policies and procedures, particularly in the areas of human resources, finance and asset management.



Humanitarian diplomacy

Progress by the National Society against objectives

Humanitarian Diplomacy remains a core element of the Malagasy Red Cross' strategies and operational plans, as reaffirmed during the Indian Ocean Islands (IOI) Leadership Coordination Meeting. The Malagasy Red Cross prioritized engagement with public authorities to develop an effective resource mobilization strategy that strengthens its financial sustainability.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Malagasy Red Cross in strengthening its humanitarian diplomacy efforts and regional engagement. As part of this, the IFRC co-hosted a webinar with the Indian Ocean Commission on climate resilience for African Island States, highlighting the importance of strong disaster policies. Through this initiative, the IFRC facilitated knowledge-sharing between National Disaster Management Authorities (NDMAS), including Madagascar's BNGRC and Comoros' DGSC, enabling them to showcase their experiences in legal preparedness and climate crisis response. The IFRC continues to encourage and guide other island nations in adopting similar legal and policy frameworks.

In addition, the IFRC is providing technical support to the Malagasy Red Cross in the development and execution of a resource mobilization strategy, ensuring the National Society can effectively engage public authorities and secure financial sustainability. The IFRC is also working closely with the Malagasy Red Cross to monitor and sustain the implementation of this strategy, reinforcing the National Society's ability to advocate for increased resources and improve its long-term operational capacity.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Malagasy Red Cross prioritized integrating monitoring and evaluation across all its operations, ensuring a unified approach to planning, implementation and learning. This structured approach allowed the National Society to assess programme performance, manage risks and adopt adaptive management strategies to enhance the effectiveness of

its interventions. Additionally, by ensuring timely and transparent reporting, the Malagasy Red Cross has strengthened donor trust and increased funding opportunities.

With support from the Capacity Building Fund (CBF), the National Society is working towards enhancing transparency, digitalizing operational management and reinforcing protection and inclusion mechanisms. To improve accountability, post-distribution monitoring activities have been conducted, providing valuable insights for future distribution efforts. For instance, in the Hunger Crisis response in the Androy region, a satisfaction survey involving 486 beneficiaries (151 males, 335 females) found that 98 per cent were satisfied with the beneficiary selection process and overall assistance.

The Malagasy Red Cross also undertook internal capacity-building initiatives, including an integrity training programme for Executive Board members and staff representatives, equipping them with knowledge on compliance, ethics and accountability in humanitarian work. Additionally, a qualitative survey was conducted in Elonty commune to assess the effectiveness and sustainability of the Hunger Crisis intervention, involving interviews with key informants, stakeholders, beneficiaries, volunteers and staff. The collected data is currently being analysed to refine future interventions.

As part of the DREF Gamane response, a post-distribution monitoring survey was carried out among cash assistance beneficiaries in Vohemar and Sambava districts of the SAVA region. The Malagasy Red Cross staff and volunteers led the data collection process, with results currently under review.

To enhance learning and coordination, two workshops were organized at the conclusion of operations. The first workshop, held at the regional level, gathered stakeholders to assess coordination and humanitarian aid delivery. The second workshop, at the national level, focused on strategic and operational coordination, improving synergy among actors and applying lessons learned for future responses.

To further strengthen reporting and accountability, the Malagasy Red Cross has adopted KoBo Collect for real-time data collection, ensuring efficient tracking of performance metrics. Additionally, a Microsoft Excel Workplan tracking tool has been introduced to document activities, key achievements, challenges and solutions across all operations.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC strengthened the Malagasy Red Cross monitoring, evaluation and reporting capacity, ensuring that all operations follow a structured and data-driven approach. Through CBF support, the IFRC has helped the National Society establish more transparent internal processes, integrate digitalization into operational management, and reinforce protection and inclusion mechanisms.

The IFRC also collaborated with the Malagasy Red Cross on internal capacity-building initiatives, including an integrity training programme for Executive Board members and staff representatives.



The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)

is the world's largest humanitarian network, with 191 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and around 16 million volunteers. Our volunteers are present in communities before, during and after a crisis or disaster. We work in the most hard to reach and complex settings in the world, saving lives and promoting human dignity. We support communities to become stronger and more resilient places where people can live safe and healthy lives, and have opportunities to thrive.

DATA SCOPE AND LIMITATIONS

- **Timeframe and alignment:** The reporting timeframe for this overview is covering the period from 1 January to 30 June 2024. However, due to the diversity of the IFRC and differences in fiscal years, this coverage may not fully align for some National Societies. Mid-year reporting data may have been based on estimations, with plans to submit more robust numbers at the annual reporting stage.
- **Financial overview:** This overview consolidates data reported by the National Society and its IFRC network partners, as well as data extracted from IFRC's financial systems. All reported figures should include the administrative and operational costs of the different entities. The financial data with a light grey background is solely reported by the National Society, including the funding sources. Financial reporting is often times estimated depending on availability of financial figures, closing of financial periods, and may be incomplete. "Not reported" could sometimes mean "not applicable."
- **Missing data and breakdowns:** National Societies have diverse data collection systems and processes that may not align with the standardized indicators. Data may not be available for some indicators, for some National Societies. This may lead to inconsistencies across different reporting tools as well as potential under or over estimation of the efforts led by all.
- **Reporting bias:** The data informing this Federation-wide overview is self-reported by each National Society (or its designated support entity) and which is the owner and gatekeeper, and responsible for accuracy and updating. IFRC tries to triangulate the data provided by the National Societies with previous data and other data in the public domain.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- [IFRC Madagascar mid-year 2024 financial report](#)
Note: For emergencies for which financial report is not yet available, see: [MDRMG022](#)
- [IFRC network country plan](#)
- [Subscribe for updates](#)
- [Live Disaster Response Emergency Fund \(DREF\) data](#)
- Operational information: [IFRC GO platform](#)
- National Society data: [IFRC Federation-wide Databank and Reporting System](#)
- [IFRC Evaluation and Research Databank](#)

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